reached the place of accident after a delay of 20 minutes? May I also know from the Hon. Minister whether the large amount of damage caused to the fish-curing yard as a result of the fire was due to the Fire Service Squad going late to put down the fire or not?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"I do not know about it. But I shall enquire about it."

SRI O. KORAN :—"May I know the reason for the outbreak of fire?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"I have already stated that a report has been called for."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—"Why not the Government, at least after receipt of the notice of this question, get a preliminary report as to the general nature of the outbreak of fire?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"Sir, I got notice of the question only day before yesterday."

Election to the Corporation of Madras

* 1837 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Corporation of Madras is omitting from the Census Registers "The Castes" for the purposes of the ensuing elections to the Corporation and thereby affecting the population and the number of seats reserved for the Harijans;

(*b*) if so, the preventive measures taken by the Government in the matter; and

(*c*) total number of seats allotted to the Corporation of Madras including reservations and the number of seats reserved for Harijans for the ensuing elections?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—"(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member apparently refers to the National Register of Citizens in which there is a column for noting community. The name of the community is, however, mentioned only in the case of backward classes. In the case of non-backward classes the name of the community is not specifically mentioned.

"(*c*) The total strength of the Corporation Council (excluding alderman and special Councillors) is seventy-three, after the High Court had declared that the reservation of seats for Muslims, Indian Christians and Anglo-Indians is *ultra vires* the Constitution. The number of seats reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes. Women and labour is five, four and four respectively."

2nd April 1955]

SRI A. RATNAM :—" என்னுடைய பிரச்னை என்னவென்றால், கான்ஸ்டிடியூஷன் பிரகாரம் ஷெட்யூல் வகுப்பினருக்கு அரசியல் உரிமை அவர்களுடைய ஜனத் தொகை விகிதாசாரப்படி கொடுக்கப்படவேண்டும் என்பதாகும். 1930-ம் ஆண்டில் இரண்டு லட்சம் பேர்கள் என்று சென்ஸஸ் ரிப்போர்டில் இருந்தது. பின்னர் 25 வருஷங்களுக்குப் பிறகு 1955-ல் அது ஒன்றரை லட்சமாகக் குறைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. 80 ஸ்தானங்களில் இவர்களுக்கு 4 ஸ்தானங்கள்தான் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன என்பதை கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்களுடைய கவனத்திற்கு கொண்டுவர விரும்புகின்றேன். இதுபற்றி அநேக தீர்மானங்கள் வந்திருக்கின்றன. எனவே கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்போகிறார்கள் என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகின்றேன்."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The census operation is done under the direction of the Government of India. Every year revision is also made and the National Register is brought up-to-date. On the basis of that, the population of the Harijans and the Backward Classes are calculated and reservations are being done with respect to the seats in the Assembly or in the Corporation and also in respect of posts in the public services. That is why, recently we increased the percentage for the Scheduled Castes as a result of calculations made on the basis of Census figures."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, ஷெட்யூல் வகுப்பினருடைய ரிசர்வ் ஸ்தானங்கள் உயர்த்தப்படவில்லை என்பதைப்பற்றி கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கூறுகின்றார்கள். காரணம் இப்போது எடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிற சென்ஸஸில் எஸ். சி. என்பதை விட்டுவிடுகிறார்கள். அதனால் ஹரிஜனங்கள் மிக மிக பாதிக்கப்படுகிறார்கள். மற்றவர்களைப்போல் இவர்களும் 100 ரூபாய் கொடுத்து எலெக்ஷனில் நிற்கவேண்டும். அதுவும் ரிசர்வ் ஸ்தானங்களுக்குத் தகுதியில்லை என்பதுதான் காரணம். மேலும் சென்ஸஸ் ரிப்போர்ட் எடுக்கும்போது வீடுகளிலே எஸ்.சி. என்பதை விட்டு விட்டு திருத்தங்கள் செய்துவிடுகிறார்கள். ஆகவே இவைகளுக்கெல்லாம் என்ன நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்கப்போகிறார்கள் என்பதைத்தான் அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" If there are any difficulties in calculating the census figures, the hon. Member may bring them to the notice of the Government. But as far as I am aware, my impression is that it is being done properly and it is one of the correct statistics which we are maintaining with regard to the National Register."

SRI N. RAMAKRISHNA AYYAR :—" May I know whether reservations are made for securing minimum representation or for securing maximum representation for the community ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The Scheduled Castes are given representation according to population basis. That is the only minimum provided. Apart from that, they can contest general seats for the Assembly or the Corporation also."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that there was recently from March 15 to March 31, 1955, i.e., day before yesterday a general revision

of the electoral rolls carried out as far as the City of Madras was concerned. Is the Hon. Minister also aware of the fact that the general revision of electoral rolls was not satisfactorily done as many colonies that had recently sprung up two years ago were not brought under enumeration even though this fact was brought to the notice of the Commissioner of the Corporation? May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the electoral rolls revised recently would be used for the coming Corporation Elections or whether the old electoral rolls would be used?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"I would like to have notice with reference to the question whether the revised electoral rolls would form the basis for the coming Corporation elections, or not. Perhaps, the Hon. the Minister in charge of Local Bodies may be able to reply to that question. But with reference to the allegations made by the hon. Member that certain areas have been left out for enrolment, if specific instances are brought to the notice of the Government or if even illustrative cases are brought to the notice of the Government, the Government will certainly look into the matter."

SRI A. RATNAM :—"சென்னையில் உள்ள மொத்த ஜனத்தொகை என்ன ? அதிலே ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய ஜனத்தொகை எவ்வளவு ? இப்போது 6 சத விகிதம்தான் ரிசர்வ் ஸ்தானங்கள் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அப்படியானால் இந்த சென்னையில் 6 சதவிகித ஹரிஜன மக்கள்தான் வாழ்கிறார்களா ?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"A separate question may be put."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—"In view of the importance of this subject, and in view of the impending elections to the Corporation of Madras, may I request the Chair to allow an half-hour debate on this subject?"

MR. SPEAKER :—"I have no objection, but it must come by mutual consultation with the Minister. I entirely sympathise with the hon. Member. To-day we are sitting from 8-30 a.m. to 1 30 p.m. and again from 3 to 6 p.m. If this half-hour debate is allowed, we will be giving a lot of trouble to hon. Members."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"I shall satisfy the hon. Member. I shall see that all these doubts are cleared and if necessary a communique will be issued explaining all the details and points raised on this question."

Power Supply to Cordite Factory, Aruvankadu

* 1790 *Q.*—SRI P. S. RANGASWAMI NAIDU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Pykara Power is supplied to the Cordite Factory of the Defence Department of Indian Union Government at Aruvankadu in the Nilgiri district;